FOOTNOTES
FOR CHAPTER II

-THE CRANIUM OF SAINT SEBASTIAN:

IN ADDITION TO BEING A SOLDIER AND DEVOUT CHRISTIAN, SEBASTIAN'S PARTICULAR MARTYRDOM EVENTUALLY MADE HIM, AMONG OTHER THINGS, PATRON SAINT OF THE DISEASED AND PROTECTOR FROM THE PLAGUES. SUPPOSEDLY RESPONSIBLE FOR FREEING ROME FROM A RAGING PESTILENCE IN 680.

HIS REMAINS ARE NOW HOUSED THERE, IN THE BASILICA APOSTOLORUM, EXCEPT FOR HIS CRANIUM, WHICH WAS BROUGHT TO THE TOWN OF EBERSBERG BY AN AUGUSTINIAN PROVOST NAMED HUNFRIED IN 931. THE BENEDICTINE ABBEY FOUNDED THERE SOON BECAME ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PILGRIMAGE AND HEALING SITES IN SOUTHERN GERMANY.

IN FACT, IT IS SAID THE NOW SILVER-ENCASED CRANIUM IS NO MERE RELIC, BUT A POWERFUL ARTIFACT INFUSED WITH THE HOLY PROTECTION OF SEBASTIAN HIMSELF AND CAPABLE OF SHIELDING ITS WEARER FROM THE PLAGUE.

THE FULL SPECTRUM OF ITS ABILITIES HOWEVER IS STILL UNKNOWN, AND ONLY THE MOST FAITHFUL ARE ALLOWED TO MAKE USE OF IT.

-LIBRARY OF ALEXANDRIA:

ONCE THE LARGEST LIBRARY OF BOTH EGYPT AND THE ENTIRE ANCIENT WORLD, THE ROYAL LIBRARY OF ALEXANDRIA WAS HOUSE TO HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF PRICELESS BOOKS AND SCROLLS, INCLUDING SOME ORIGINAL SCRIPTS OF AESCHYLUS, SOPHOCLES AND EURIPIDES.

IT IS UNCLEAR WHOM OR WHAT CAUSED THIS HISTORIC LIBRARY TO BURN TO THE GROUND: SOME HISTORIANS CALL IT AN ACT OF WAR, OTHERS CLAIM IT AN ACT OF FATE. BUT ALL AGREE THE LOSS OF KNOWLEDGE WAS INCALCULABLE.

ACROSS THE CENTURIES HOWEVER, MANY SIGHTINGS OF SUPPOSEDLY LOST TEXTS AND SCROLLS HAVE BEEN REPORTED, WHICH LED SOME TO BELIEVE SAMPLES OF THE PRECIOUS COLLECTION WERE SPARED FROM THE FLAMES BY SOME UNKNOWN BENEFACTOR.

WHOEVER THAT MYSTERIOUS BENEFACTOR WAS, HE SADLY NEVER RETURNED ANY OF THESE ANCIENT WORKS TO THE WORLD.

-THE ANTICHRIST:

BORN ON THE 6TH OF JUNE 2006, AND SUPPOSEDLY THE PRODUCT OF A NEW VIRGIN BIRTH, **THE CHILD**'S NAME AND WHEREABOUTS ARE CURRENTLY UNKNOWN.

EVENTUALLY, DUE TO THE DARK NATURE OF THIS BIRTH, **THE CHILD**'S COMING WAS LINKED BY BOTH THE CHURCH AND THE COUNCIL TO THE PROPHECY OF **THE ANTICHRIST**.

ACCORDING TO THE NEW TESTAMENT, **THE ANTICHRIST**, OR **FALSE PROPHET**, WOULD ACT AS THE DEVIL'S MESSIAH, ONE SENT ON EARTH TO ACT AS THE ULTIMATE BEACON OF EVIL, ACHIEVE WORLD DOMINATION AND BRING ABOUT THE END OF ALL THINGS.

MUCH LIKE THE FOUR HORSEMEN IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION, WHERE HE IS REFERRED TO SIMPLY AS THE SECOND BEAST, THE ANTICHRIST IS DESTINED TO PLAY AN INTEGRAL PART IN THE COMING OF THE APOCALYPSE.

THIS BEAST HOWEVER IS NEVER FULLY DESCRIBED IN REVELATION: IT IS ONLY SAID TO HAVE THE POWERS AND WORDS "OF A DRAGON"...

...AND THE HORNS "OF A LAMB".